

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A fishing net and flashlight combination, comprising:
 - 2 a tubular handle;
 - 3 an annular ring attached to an end of the tubular handle, the ring having a netting material attached thereto; and
 - 5 a flashlight attached to the tubular handle and positioned to direct a light beam toward the ring to facilitate landing fish in low light conditions.
- 1 2. The fishing net and flashlight combination according to claim 1, wherein the flashlight is attached to the fishing net by a flashlight holder, and wherein the flashlight holder comprises a first resilient clamp assembly that clamps over the tubular handle of the fishing net, and a structure for securing the flashlight to the flashlight holder.
- 1 3. The fishing net and flashlight combination according to claim 2, wherein the first resilient clamp assembly comprises a pair of opposing side sections having arcuate inner surfaces that accommodate an outer surface of the tubular handle of the fishing net, the side sections being resiliently urged toward each other to clamp against the outer surface of the tubular handle and secure the flashlight holder to the tubular handle.
- 1 4. The fishing net and flashlight combination according to claim 3, wherein the side sections have flared outer ends that define an opening along a length of the first

3 clamp assembly between the opposing side sections to allow the first clamp assembly to
4 be snapped onto the tubular handle.

1 5. The fishing net and flashlight combination according to claim 2, wherein the
2 structure for securing the flashlight holder to the flashlight comprises a second resilient
3 clamp assembly that clamps over a housing of the flashlight.

1 6. The fishing net and flashlight combination according to claim 5, wherein the
2 second resilient clamp assembly has substantially the same structure as the first resilient
3 clamp assembly.

1 7. The fishing net and flashlight combination according to claim 1, wherein the
2 flashlight is attached to the tubular handle of the fishing net by a flashlight holder, and
3 said flashlight holder comprises a resilient clamp assembly formed of flexible plastic.

1 8. The fishing net and flashlight combination according to claim 1, wherein the
2 flashlight has a housing and a flashlight holder which is permanently attached to or
3 integral with the housing, and the flashlight holder comprises a resilient clamp assembly
4 that clamps over the tubular handle of the fishing net.

1 9. The fishing net and flashlight combination according to claim 1, wherein the
2 flashlight is attached to the fishing net by a flashlight holder, and wherein the flashlight
3 holder comprises a resilient clamp assembly that clamps over the tubular handle of the

4 fishing net, said resilient clamp assembly comprising a pair of opposing side sections, a
5 notch formed in each of the opposing side sections, and a safety strap extending through
6 the notches and around the tubular handle to ensure the flashlight holder does not become
7 detached inadvertently from the tubular handle.

1 10. A flashlight holder for attaching a flashlight to a fishing net, comprising:
2 a base;
3 a means on one side of the base for securing the flashlight holder to a tubular
4 housing of a flashlight; and
5 a first resilient clamp assembly on another side of the base for attaching the
6 flashlight holder to a tubular handle of a fishing net, said resilient clamp assembly
7 comprising a pair of opposing side sections having arcuate inner surfaces that
8 accommodate an outer surface of the tubular handle of the fishing net, the side sections
9 being resiliently urged toward each other to clamp against the outer surface of the tubular
10 handle and secure the flashlight holder to the tubular handle.

1 11. The flashlight holder according to claim 10, wherein the side sections have
2 flared outer ends that define an opening along a length of the resilient clamp assembly
3 between the opposing side sections to allow the resilient clamp assembly to be snapped
4 onto a tubular handle of a fishing net.

1 12. The flashlight holder according to claim 10, wherein said means for securing
2 the flashlight holder to the flashlight comprises a second resilient clamp assembly that

3 clamps over a housing of the flashlight.

1 13. The flashlight holder according to claim 12, wherein the second resilient
2 clamp assembly has substantially the same structure as the first resilient clamp assembly.

1 14. The flashlight holder according to claim 10, wherein the first resilient clamp
2 assembly is formed of flexible plastic.

1 15. The flashlight holder according to claim 10, further comprising a notch
2 formed in each of the opposing side sections, and a safety strap extending through the
3 notches and around the tubular handle to ensure the flashlight holder does not become
4 detached inadvertently from the tubular handle.

1 16. The flashlight holder according to claim 10, wherein said means for securing
2 the flashlight holder to the flashlight comprises an adhesive that secures the base of the
3 flashlight holder to the housing of the flashlight.

1 17. The flashlight holder according to claim 10, wherein said means for securing
2 the flashlight holder to the flashlight comprises the base of the flashlight holder being
3 formed integral with the housing of the flashlight.

1 18. A fishing net for use at night, comprising:
2 a tubular handle having a first end and a second end;

3 an annular ring attached to the first end of the tubular handle, the ring having a
4 netting material attached thereto;
5 a flashlight removably attached to the tubular handle between the first and second
6 ends of the handle, the flashlight being positioned to direct a light beam toward the first
7 end of the handle to facilitate use of the fishing net in low light conditions.

1 19. The fishing net according to claim 18, wherein the flashlight is attached to
2 the fishing net by a first resilient clamp assembly formed of flexible plastic that clamps
3 over the tubular handle of the fishing net, the first resilient clamp assembly comprising a
4 generally tubular sleeve having an opening along one side that allows the tubular
5 structure to expand and snap over the outer surface of the tubular handle of the fishing
6 net.

1 20. The fishing net according to claim 18, wherein the flashlight is attached to
2 the fishing net by a flashlight holder, and wherein the flashlight holder comprises a
3 resilient clamp assembly that clamps over the tubular handle of the fishing net, said
4 resilient clamp assembly comprising a generally tubular sleeve having an opening along
5 one side that allows the tubular structure to expand and snap over the outer surface of the
6 tubular handle of the fishing net, a pair of notches formed in the tubular sleeve, and a
7 safety strap extending through the notches and around the tubular handle to ensure the
8 flashlight holder does not become detached inadvertently from the tubular handle of the
9 fishing net.